

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 INT-05 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-10 /098 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:DLSCHIELE:EK
APPROVED BY IO/UNP:RLBARRY
EA/ANP:TWAJDA
L/UNA:DSTEWART
C:IWOLF
OMSN:RCRUMP
INTERIOR/OTA:JBERG (SUBS)
-----041552 242358Z /15
P R 242001Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201972

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, TQ, MP, US, UR

SUBJECT:SOVIET DEMARCHE ON MICRONESIA

REF: PORT LOUIS 0877

1. THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS,
COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS MICRONESIA, IS ADMINISTERED
BY USG UNDER TERMS OF A TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT WITH
THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL. USG IS IN THE PROCESS OF
NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH MICRONESIANS ON A FUTURE
POLITICAL STATUS RELATIONSHIP FOLLOWING TERMINATION
OF TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT (WHICH WE HOPE WILL TAKE
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PLACE BY 1981), BUT OUTCOME OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS
STILL UNCERTAIN. WE HAVE INFORMED MICRONESIANS AND
UN TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (OF WHICH SOVIETS ARE A MEMBER)
THAT WE BELIEVE MOST PROMISING BASIS FOR MUTUALLY
SATISFACTORY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLES OF
MICRONESIA AND THE US IS ONE OF FREE ASSOCIATION, BUT
THAT WE HAVE NOT EXCLUDED POSSIBILITY OF TALKS LEADING

TO OTHER FORMS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING INDEPENDENCE, IF THAT IS MICRONESIAN WISH. (FREE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT WOULD GRANT DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS AUTHORITY TO US, AND VEST FULL AUTHORITY FOR

INTERNAL SELF-GOVERNMENT WITH MICRONESIANS.) NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLICATED BY SEPARATIST TENDENCIES OF SOME DISTRICTS WITHIN THE TERRITORY AND BY INTERNAL DISPUTES AS TO WHAT BODY OR BODIES MAY REPRESENT MICRONESIAN PEOPLES IN NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAVE PARTICIPATED IN TWO US/MICRONESIAN CONFERENCES THIS YEAR TO DISCUSS STATUS MATTERS AND FORMAT FOR FUTURE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, BUT NO FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE THIS YEAR. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THEY WILL BEGIN IN OCTOBER. FYI: NEW AMBASSADOR FOR STATUS NEGOTIATIONS HAS JUST BEEN APPOINTED. END FYI

2. UN DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE OF 24) ANNUALLY CONSIDERS THE TRUST TERRITORY AND INCLUDES THE OUTCOME OF ITS DELIBERATIONS IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE GA. IN PAST YEARS THERE HAS BEEN NO SEPARATE CONSIDERATION OF MICRONESIA BY THE GA, BUT THIS COULD OCCUR IF A RESOLUTION WERE INTRODUCED BY ANY UN MEMBER. OTHER THAN REPORT CONTAINED REFTTEL, WE HAVE NO REASON AT THIS TIME TO EXPECT SUCH A DEVELOPMENT. SOVIETS HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF US
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"COLONIALISM" IN THE TRUST TERRITORY AND LAST YEAR ATTACKED US POLICY IN SPEECH DURING PLENARY GA SESSION.

3. ARTICLE 83 OF UN CHARTER STATES THAT "ALL FUNCTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELATING TO STRATEGIC AREAS, INCLUDING THE APPROVAL OF THE TERMS OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENTS AND OF THEIR ALTERATION OR AMENDMENT, SHALL BE EXERCISED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL." THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT FOR MICRONESIA SPECIFICALLY PROVIDES THAT IT IS A STRATEGIC AREA AND THE AGREEMENT WAS APPROVED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. (OTHER TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENTS -- FOR NON-STRATEGIC AREAS -- WERE ALL APPROVED BY THE GA.) USG CONSIDERS QUESTION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS TO BE OUTSIDE COMPETENCE OF COMMITTEE OF 24 AND THE GA. WE OPPOSE CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER BY EITHER BODY AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE AND, ADDITIONALLY, BECAUSE IT COULD INTERFERE WITH NEGOTIATIONS ON THE FUTURE STATUS OF THE TERRITORY.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, DEMARCHE, TRUSTEESHIPS (UN)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE201972
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DLSCHIELE:EK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770306-0570
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770827/aaaaawmy.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c91d1054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PORT LOUIS 877
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1496471
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET DEMARCHE ON MICRONESIA
TAGS: PORG, TQ, MP, US, UR, UNGA
To: PORT LOUIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c91d1054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009